

CONFIDENTIAL

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: State Department Desire to Transmit to
Members of Congress FBIS Transcripts
in Which They Are Mentioned

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for approval by the Director of Central Intelligence. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 6.
2. The Office of Congressional Relations, Department of State, on an informal basis has approached this Agency with a proposal that State transmit to members of Congress copies of all FBIS transcripts of monitored foreign broadcasts in which reference is made to them. (The State Department receives copies of these transcripts through regular distribution of FBIS reports.)
3. I have discussed this matter with the Chief, FBID, and have looked into the past policy of this office in handling FBIS transcripts. Transcripts have been made available upon request by the individual involved and in some rare instances on our own initiative when the substance of the transcript came to our attention and appeared to justify dissemination. It has not been done on a routine program basis.
4. Foreign broadcasts (particularly from the USSR, Communist China and the satellite countries) of any real substance which refer to Congressmen would undoubtedly be of interest to them. The attached transcript of a recent Lithuanian broadcast castigating Senator William Knowland is a good example. However, it is doubtful that there would be any merit in, or reason for, sending a transcript to a Congressman on an automatic or routine basis merely because his name is mentioned or if the broadcast only repeats U. S. press articles, broadcasts or information of no real consequence.

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5. Since the monitoring of foreign broadcasts is an overt function of this Agency, through the FBIS, I see no reason for the distribution of the transcripts of these broadcasts by the State Department or any organization other than FBIS or CIA. FBIS has indicated that for internal CIA purposes it now singles out or otherwise identifies broadcasts referring to U. S. Congressmen, but it prefers not to become directly involved with Congressmen in providing its transcripts. Retyping or reproducing the transcripts would impose an additional work load on FBIS but the transcripts could be made available to this office in the form in which they are now received. The function of this office would consist of a professional review of the transcripts and the clerical process of mailing them to the Congressmen concerned. (A sample check indicates that there would be about ten of these transcripts per month appropriate for forwarding.)

6. It is recommended that the Agency furnish FBIS transcripts, on a selective basis, to members of Congress. Upon your approval of the above recommendation, this office will informally advise State that for some time CIA has been engaged in a program similar to the one which they propose, but on a limited basis; that we do not wish to place this program on a routine or automatic basis and that there appears to be no necessity to disturb existing distribution channels.

Att - 1

CONCURRENCE:

[Redacted Signature]

Deputy Director (Support)

[Redacted Signature]

Acting Assistant Director for Operations

[Redacted Signature]

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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The recommendation in paragraph 6 is approved.

[Redacted Signature]

~~ALLEN W. DULLES~~

Director

10 MAR 1958

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